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Cover Illustration: Peregrine Falcon by Paul Donahue Courtesy of Susan Roney Drennan, Editor-in-Chief, <i>American Birds</i>	

ABOUT BOOK REVIEWS

The number and variety of bird books are almost as wondrous as the number and variety of bird species. In the current edition of *Books in Print*, almost 500 titles alone begin with the words "birds" or "birding." There are countless books in print with other titles and many more volumes no longer in print. How can *Bird Observer* possibly select just a few of the new or old books to tell our readers about?

Perhaps the most important reason for reading (and owning) books is as an information source about bird identification, behavior, and habitats. We will sample from among the many publications on these subjects, selecting ones that offer important information of particular interest to *Bird Observer* readers. Another appeal for many of us is simply the pleasure of good reading on such subjects as bird species, birding personalities, or birding places around the world. We hope to share with our readers some of the adventures, excitement, and discoveries found in books about birds and birding.

Alden Clayton, Department Head, Book Reviews